Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 36, starting at line 24 with the following paragraph:

SPRR1A function was also reduced by trituration of naive and preconditioned adult DRG neurons with affinity-purified SPRR1A antibody. Similar to the antisense oligonucleotide treatment, anti-SPRR1A antibody treatment decreased neurite outgrowth in the adult preconditioned neurons (Fig. 7F~~,G~~). This inhibition was selective in that rabbit IgG had no effect and anti-SPRR1A-treated naive neurons (lacking SPRR1A) did not exhibit altered outgrowth. Thus, two methods confirm that SPRR1A contributes to the axotomy-induced morphological switch from a branching to an elongating mode of growth.